

Forum: The Food and Agricultural Organization

Question of: Advancing global sustainable agricultural development

Submitted by: The Syrian Arab Republic



Co-submitted by: Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cambodia, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ethiopia, Germany, Russia, India, Indonesia, Iran, Republic of Iraq, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mexico, Namibia, Nicaragua, Romania, Spain, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, Viet Nam

- 1 The Food and Agricultural Organization,
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3 *Alarmed by* the extreme contrast between food overproduction in MEDCs and widespread hunger in
4 LEDCs,
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6 *Reaffirming* the importance of sustainable agriculture to feed the rapidly growing world population,
7 whilst maintaining an environmentally friendly society,
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9 *Noting with deep concern* the current international policy, which focuses on aiding LEDCs to survive but
10 hinders them to strive,
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12 *Acknowledging* the grave importance of further supporting LEDCs agriculture development by refocusing
13 towards international cooperation based on knowledge sharing and monetary support,
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15 *Convinced* of the effectiveness of a universal agriculture program in order to increase the market share
16 of sustainable agriculture and most easily provide education to stakeholders concerning sustainable
17 agriculture,
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19 *Expressing its appreciation* for the so-called “traffic light system”, which effectively provides the
20 necessary information on the sustainability of the production of a product to consumers,
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22 *Alarmed by* international trade agreements, which often disadvantage the LEDCs involved in the
23 agreement,
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25 *Noting with regret* the lack of biodiversity in many agricultural programs of member states,
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27 *Aware of* the importance of education of the general public in regards of sustainable life, agriculture and
28 consumerism and the disparities between member states in their abilities to provide it,
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30 1. **Encourages** a change in international policy by focusing on sustainable agricultural development
31 rather than short-term aid by:
32 a. increasing investments in public agricultural programs of LEDCs,
33 b. reducing overproduction in MEDCs and thusly supporting local markets and industry,
34 c. refraining from intervening in national issues and thusly undermining regional
35 sustainability;
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2. **Calls upon** UN-Member states especially MEDCs to further support sustainable agriculture development in LEDCs by:
 - a. an open exchange of technologies and ideas,
 - b. ending national individualism that hinders LEDCs a fair access to international markets,
 - c. offering interest loans lower than 1% to LEDCs to increase their independence on the international stage;

3. **Recommends** that UN members reduce low cost food import into LEDCs in order to enable local industries to grow by reducing national subsidies in MEDCs which enable the price dumping on emerging markets;

4. **Proposes** for member states and unions of member states (EU, AU, Arab League) to introduce stricter regulations on international food markets by the UN to reduce speculation and stabilizing the market;

5. **Calls for** the creation of the Global Sustainable Agricultural Program (GSAP), which shall be responsible for the following:
 - a. Establishing international sustainable development centers, which shall inform key stakeholders on the possibilities of sustainable agricultural development,
 - b. Supporting research in the areas of sustainable agriculture, especially in the field of low yield agriculture, which makes it difficult for LEDCs and geographically disadvantaged countries to have a sovereign agriculture system,
 - c. Creating financial incentives for sustainable agricultural development;

6. **Strongly Urges** the GSAP to be financed by the International Fund for Agricultural Development;

7. **Urges** member states to implement a traffic light system on food packaging, indicating the sustainability of the method of production using the following labels:
 - a. Green: a product produced sustainably, both socially and ecologically,
 - b. Orange: a product produced somewhat sustainably, which has some social and ecological problems,
 - c. Red: a product which does not adhere to the existing sustainable guidelines and ideas;
 - d. Supervising the process of traffic light label allocation in order to prevent tortuous interference by the regarding companies

8. **Requests** member states not to sign trade agreements concerning agriculture import/export, which have proven detrimental to the economic situation of LEDCs;

- 85 9. **Encourages** member states to increase the bio diversity of their agricultural system by using local
86 crops instead of standardized crops marketed by large firms and supporting local farms
87 producing diverse crops for the internal markets through financial incentives;
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- 89 10. **Urges** member states to encourage small scale organic farming, in order to increase the share of
90 sustainable farming on the market;
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- 93 11. **Discourages** the use of GMOs in the future sustainable agricultural development and the
94 subsidization of them, as they are made unnecessary by other sustainable farming methods
95 such as, but not limited to, permaculture or the ideas of Paul Kaiser;
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- 98 12. **Urges** member states to further the general public's knowledge on sustainable living by means
99 of but not limited to:
100 a. include educational measures on the topic of "being a sustainable consumer" in
101 their national curricula,
102 b. encouraging media campaigns which introduce the benefits of sustainable
103 consuming to the general public,
104 c. creating an online portal for educational purposes concerning themselves with
105 sustainable development aimed at consumers and different stakeholders,
106 d. making use of the already existing infrastructures in lesser developed nations,
107 such as missions or churches.